

## Message Text

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70

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01

/071 W

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R 030931 Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0141

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DEPT PASS FAA AND INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY  
BOARD (NTSB)

1. IN CONVERSATION WHICH EXTENDED OVER WIDE RANGE OF AVIATION MATTERS CURRENTLY OF MUTUAL CONCERN TO MOT AND EMBASSY, TRANSPORT DEPPERMSEC FRANCIS OBI BRIEFLY COMMENTED ON THREE FOLLOWING ISSUES (SEPARATE REPORTS SENT ON BOEING CREDITS, AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION AND PANAM FOURTH FREQUENCY):

A. FAA PRELIMINARY STUDY (LAGOS 5121): OBI AGAIN ASKED WHEN HE COULD EXPECT THE COST AND SCOPE ESTIMATES FOR THIS STUDY. EMBASSY OFFICER REPLIED THAT AMBASSADOR HAD DISCUSSED THIS MATTER DIRECTLY WITH FAA DURING A RECENT VISIT IN WASHINGTON AND WAS CONFIDENT A POSITIVE OFFER WOULD BE FORTHCOMING SOON. OBI SAID HE EXPECTED TO ACCEPT IT ALMOST IMMEDIATELY ON RECEIPT AND ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITY FOR AID FINANCING. EMBASSY OFFICER REPLIED THAT ONLY FUNDS HE KNEW OF WHICH MIGHT BE USED WERE BLOCK GRANT FUNDS NOT BEING ADMINISTERED BY FMEDR. INITIATIVE FOR THEIR USE WOULD, OF COURSE, HAVE TO COME FROM FMG.

B. NTSB ASSISTANCE IN KANO ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION:  
OBI SAID THAT IF BELLO TRIBUNAL HAD COMPLETED ITS WORK  
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IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAY 19 DEADLINE A LETTER OF APPRECIATION WOULD ALREADY HAVE BEEN SENT TO NTSB FOR THEIR EXTENSIVE AND MUCH-APPRECIATED HELP WITH THE INVESTIGATION. OBI AGAIN PAID TRIBUTE TO THE PERSONAL QUALITIES OF NTSB'S ARNOLD HOLSTINE AND BOEING'S HAL PIPER, WHO EACH MADE FOUR SEPARATE TRIPS OUT TO NIGERIA IN CONNECTION WITH INVESTIGATION. OBI SAID THAT THE NEW DEADLINE FOR FINISHING THE COMMISSION'S REPORT IS JULY 31 AND AT THAT TIME LETTERS OF APPRECIATION WILL BE SENT TO ALL WHO HELPED IN THIS DIFFICULT TASK.

C. TWA CONTRACT: IN RESPONSE TO QUERY, OBI SAID THAT HE COULD ONLY SAY THAT THIS COMPLICATED MATTER IS STILL UNDER ACTIVE STUDY. TWA HAD PRODUCED A VERY EXTENSIVE AND DETAILED REPORT WHOSE PREPARATION HAD REQUIRED SIX MONTHS. HE DID NOT FIND IT UNREASONABLE FOR NIGERIANS TO TAKE A FEW MONTHS TO FIGURE OUT A PROPER RESPONSE TO SUCH A COMPLEX PROBLEM. HE HAD MANAGED, HE SAID, TO FIND INTERIM SOLUTIONS TO SOME OF NIGERIA AIRWAYS' MOST PRESSING PROBLEMS, SO THERE IS NO NEED TO RUSH INTO ANY LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS WITHOUT MOST CAREFUL STUDY.

REINHARDT

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** EAIR, ELTN, NI, FAA, NTSB  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005